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MAY MEETING.

THE stated meeting was held on Thursday, the 9th instant, at three o'clock, P. M.; the first Vice-President, Mr. WARREN, in the absence of the President, in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read and approved.

The Editor reported for the Librarian the following:

From England was obtained a copy of Robert Fleming's *Scripture Truth Confirmed and cleared*, 1678, a publication "not seen" by Rev. Alexander Gordon, who wrote the life of Fleming in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. This volume contains the signature of Rev. John Robinson (*d.* 1745) of Duxbury, and also the following: "The Gift of the Revd. Mr. John Robinson To his Daughter, Faith Trumbull, A. D. 1745." She married Jonathan Trumbull, the governor of Connecticut.

In presenting a copy of a Gaelic calendar for 1918, Mr. Fred N. Robinson writes:

The document in itself has some curious interest as an evidence of one of the numberless cross-currents of sentiment that are now running their course in Europe. The object of the compiler was to help revive the traditional friendship of the Gaelic Irish for France, and thus to quicken, if possible, their sympathy for the cause of the Allies. On the first page he refers to the old stories of contact between Gauls and Irishmen in the remote legendary period of Irish history. The second page recites the relations of the two peoples in the age of the great Celtic missionaries and scholars — *Nasimh agus Olhamhain* ("Saints and Doctors"). Then the page following the calendar proper deals with the settlement of the Irish in the New World, and especially with their participation, alongside of the French, in the American Revolution. Finally, on the last page, the writer exhorts the Gaels to do their part, with the French and the allied nations in the present war.

The Cabinet-Keeper reported the following accessions:

From Miss Sara Norton, a banner with the arms of Hungary, probably brought to this country in 1849, by Kossuth or one of his companions, and given to her Sedgwick relations who had befriended the Hungarians.

From Mrs. Robert C. Winthrop, by deposit, a painting of Washington, by Gilbert Stuart, given to Mr. Robert C. Winthrop.

From Miss Mary Rivers, of Milton, a gilt medal of Napoleon I, 1807, given to Miss Lydia Smith as a prize in drawing, and a silver medal by Bodoni of Marie Louise of Parma, 1809, given to Jonathan Russell by the governor of the city in 1819.¹

From Senator Lodge, a collection of United States food posters.

From Mr. Norcross, a series of postal-card views of Camp Devens.

The Corresponding Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Russell Gray, accepting his election as a Resident Member of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary also reported the receipt of an invitation to be represented at the dedication of the new building of the Minnesota Historical Society, at St. Paul, on May 11. Prof. Frederick J. Turner, and Prof. William Stearns Davis, of the University of Minnesota, were designated to represent this Society on that occasion.

The Editor announced the following gifts:

From Mr. Edward D. Harris, of New York, a copy of his grandfather's (Thaddeus Mason Harris) *Natural History of the Bible*, 1820, liberally annotated and enlarged in ms. by the author for a new edition, which was never issued. The Society possesses a copy of the first edition, published by Thomas and Andrews in 1793, with the following presentation in ms.: "As a token of his lively gratitude and affectionate regard, the author presents this book to his kind benefactor, his early instructor and excellent friend, the revd. Ebr. Morse. Dorchester, August 20, 1793." This "association copy" was given to the Society in 1907 by Mr. John A. Cotton, whose ancestor, W. Cotton, purchased it at the auction Mr. Morse's library. Mr. Harris also gives a receipt book of Robert Breck, 1763-1765, a merchant in Boston, and probably the partner of John Breck. Robert died in March or April, 1765, and Benjamin Dolbeare and Benjamin Harrod were executors under his will. The alternate pages of the book have been used by a member of the Dolbeare family as a "commonplace book" for records of the war in Europe, 1805.

From Charles P. Greenough, a number of mss. on Massachusetts history, among which are muster rolls 1777; petition of Ebenezer Storer to Congress, 1792; letters to Dwight Foster; and two books of

¹ See p. 419, *infra*.

receipts, one of William Belcher of Boston, 1760-1773; and the second of Increase Sumner, Roxbury, 1774-1798, containing the signatures of merchants and traders of Boston in that period.

From Leverett Thompson and Susan Thompson Dickinson, a letter of Daniel Webster, dated March 15, 1806, and written to their great grandfather, Thomas W. Thompson, then a member of Congress from New Hampshire.

On deposit, from the Bostonian Society, letters and papers relating to Holmes Hinckley (1793-1866) of Boston, which were given to the Bostonian Society by his daughter, Mrs. Theoda J. Hill of Wellesley Hills.

By purchase, a folio volume containing the receipts and payments of customs in the port of Carlisle, England, 1688-1691 (42 leaves), and a full record of medical practice and recipes at the end of the seventeenth century (234 pages). As an epitome of remedies and a glossary of medical terms it possesses value and complements the medical papers in the Winthrop papers.¹

A letter-book of James Shapley, merchant in Portsmouth, N. H., 1807-1812 — the period of the embargo.

Legal papers of South Carolina, 1784-1786, being notes on cases by Edward Rutledge and Charles C. Pinckney.

A parchment deed, dated November 1, 1622, made by Robert ap William Griffith of Bedorryn, in the county of Denbigh, but twice signed by a Roger Williams, as witness. It was sent from London on the possibility of having some connection with Roger Williams of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Dr. STORER called attention to the two metal cabinets for the coin and medal collections of the Society, which have just been received from the manufacturers. They were made on plans devised and tested by the American Numismatic Society of New York, through whose courtesy this Society was enabled thus to avail itself of the latest devices for the safe storing and convenient arrangement of coins.

Arthur Prentice Rugg, of Worcester, was elected a Resident Member of the Society.

Frederick Scott Oliver, of London, England, was elected a Corresponding Member of the Society.

Announcement was made of the appointment of the following Committees:

¹ See Dr. Holmes paper in 1 *Proceedings*, v. 379. The Society possesses the record of cases treated by John Winthrop, Jr., 1657-1669, containing many names not in Savage's *Dictionary*.

House Committee: GRENVILLE H. NORCROSS, J. COLLINS WARREN, and WORTHINGTON C. FORD.

Finance Committee: WINSLOW WARREN, GRENVILLE H. NORCROSS, and CHARLES P. GREENOUGH.

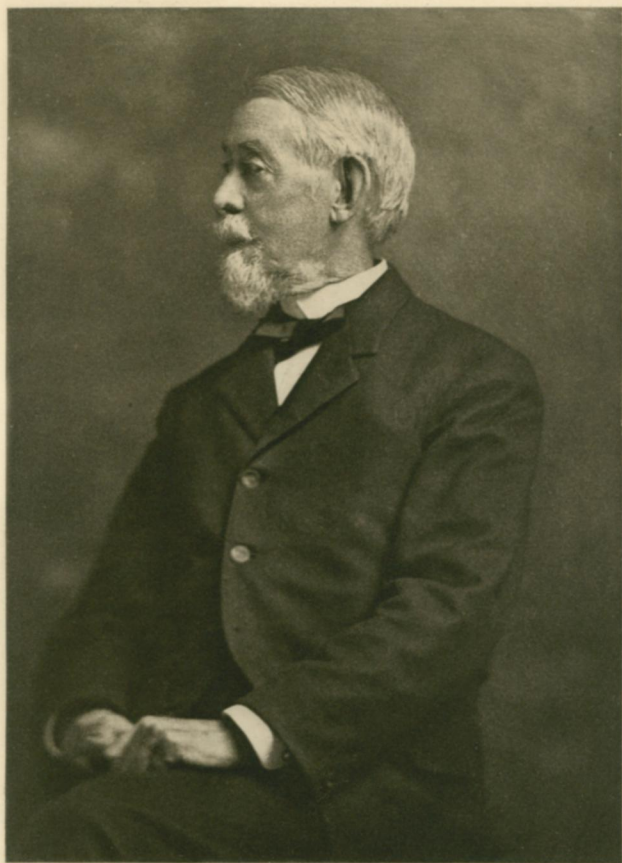
Committee to publish the *Proceedings*: HENRY CABOT LODGE, JAMES FORD RHODES, and EDWARD STANWOOD.

It was voted that the income of the Massachusetts Historical Trust Fund for the financial year be retained in the treasury, to be expended in such objects as may seem desirable to the Council of the Society.

Rev. Mr. FROTHINGHAM read a paper on "The Orator as Statesman," based upon the career of Edward Everett.

Mr. WENDELL read a paper on "Japan in its historical Relations," which will be published elsewhere.

Remarks were made during the meeting by Messrs. FORD, THAYER, NORCROSS, WENDELL, W. WARREN, BOWDITCH, STORER, and W. S. BIGELOW.



MHS

Chas. C. Smith

October 17, 1906.

MEMOIR

OF

CHARLES CARD SMITH

BY JULIUS HERBERT TUTTLE.

The senior member of this Society, in age, Charles Card Smith, died at his home, in Boston, on March 20, 1918. His peaceful end came in his early morning sleep, and to his last waking hours he seemed to preserve some of his long-time vigor. His business visits during banking hours in the care of his personal affairs had been kept up with his usual regularity.

Mr. Smith was born in Boston on March 27, 1827, the only child of George and Harriet (Card) Smith. He showed no pride of ancestry, and constantly avoided any reference to his forbears, so that little can be recorded as to his inheritance. His father's family connections were mostly in Gloucester and Ipswich; his mother's early home and relatives were in Portland, Maine. In the autumn of 1827 his father removed to Gloucester where he was a large dealer in coal and lumber. Three years later the town was visited with a destructive fire, and his property, including his home, was wholly destroyed. Mr. Smith's grandfather, Col. Jacob Smith, of Ipswich, was a practical builder, who left three examples of his industry, the Universalist meeting-house of Gloucester, a meeting-house in Rockport, and one in Manchester.

Mr. Smith's boyhood days were spent in Gloucester, where his education was gained in public and in private schools. He was precocious in his studies, and a constant winner of a "reward of merit." One serious handicap followed him from his

earliest days. He was short-sighted, and this difficulty kept him in his early years from the rougher and outdoor sports, and hindered him afterward from any active part in public service. He began to wear glasses in his youth, and the identical pair then worn remained with him in active use during the rest of his life; and it was not until last May that his almost total loss of eyesight led him to consult an oculist. Mr. Smith, in reading, always removed his spectacles, and held the page very close to his eyes.

Naturally his interests centered in matters closely associated with his efforts in self-education, and he shrank from those things which had no attractions for him. At the age of ten years he and a few other schoolmates, with a large number of their elders, became members and signed the constitution of the Gloucester Institute, a lyceum for debates, social intercourse, and lectures on a variety of subjects; and no one can measure the influence of that early society on his future. In school he was one of two in a class to study Latin; and he kept up the study in later years, considering the mental stimulus of value in his literary work.

At the age of sixteen years, in the autumn of 1843, Mr. Smith came to Boston and entered the counting-room of Dr. Edward Hutchinson Robbins, agent of the Northampton Woolen Manufacturing Company with rooms at No. 5 Phillips Building, and later at 46 Kilby Street. He remained with Dr. Robbins until his death in 1850, and then with his successor until 1853, when he accepted a position as clerk of the Boston Gas Light Company in their office at 102 Washington Street. In March, 1889, he retired from service in the company and from active business, having been during the whole period closely associated with the late William W. Greenough, its treasurer and agent.

In 1847, Mr. Smith made his home at 3 Chauncey Place, which ran off of Summer Street at No. 43, and two years later he is recorded at No. 1. On August 22, 1853, he married in Gloucester, Georgiana, daughter of George and Ann (Mansfield) Whittemore, then temporarily staying there. Her home was in Boston, on Fort Hill, where she was born February 20, 1833; and her education was completed in the Framingham Normal School, in which she became a teacher of mathematics

and sciences after her graduation. There was a charm of mutual devotion in their companionship, although their differences of opinion were often pronounced. Her grandfather Samuel Whittemore, was a native of Cambridge, graduate of Harvard College in 1751, taught the first public school in Gloucester, served in the Revolutionary War, and was Naval Officer of the port at Gloucester for several years. Her ancestors were mostly Gloucester people.

After their marriage they lived with her Uncle Nathaniel Whittemore of Hingham in the fall and winter of 1853-54, and then for a short time at the old United States Hotel in Boston. They boarded for a while at 8 Decatur Street, and in 1854 he bought the house at 10 Decatur Street. About 1869 they removed to 18 Rutland Square, and in 1881, they went to their last abiding place, 286 Marlborough Street, which he then bought, only a few years after that part of the street had been laid out and accepted by the City. Mrs. Smith's death occurred there on March 25, 1918, only five days after Mr. Smith's decease; but not before she had expressed her desire to have her late husband's wishes carried out, by which the Society will receive a lasting benefit from a generous gift.

Mr. Smith at the age of twenty, in 1847, became a regular contributor to the *Christian Examiner*, and continued for more than twenty years. His articles also appeared in the *New York Literary World*, 1849-50; the *Boston Atlas*, *Boston Courier*, *Boston Traveller*, 1850-52; *North American Review*, 1857-67; *Old and New*, 1870-75; *Boston Daily Advertiser*, *Unitarian Review*, 1874-79; *Boston Post*, 1886-91; *Harvard Graduates' Magazine*, 1896; and *American Historical Review*, 1896-98. His writing covered a variety of subjects, including many notices of new books, all with a sympathetic and often trenchant pen. Probably many books in his library came to him for review. He assisted Dr. Andrew P. Peabody as editor of the *North American Review*, for three years, until Dr. Peabody resigned in December, 1863, when he wrote to him, "Your contributions and invaluable aid in other ways constituted the happiest chapter of my editorial life, and if the *North American* held any worthy place in the literature of the country, it has been due, especially for the last three years, more to you than to me." Two chapters in the *Memorial History of Boston*, on "Boston" and the

“French Protestants,” and four chapters in the *Narrative and Critical History of America* on “Arctic, and the Northwest Explorations,” and on “Acadia, and Cape Breton,” were written by him.

Mr. Smith attended the Federal Street Church, and went with it to its new meeting-house on Arlington Street, and was always greatly interested in its welfare. The last service in the old building was held on March 12, 1859; and the new building was dedicated on December 11, 1861. He served for many years on the Standing Committee, and was treasurer from 1865 to 1884. The inscriptions on the tablet erected in memory of the ministers of the Church were prepared by him. A short account of the Church, in its manual published in 1875, was also his.

Various societies counted Mr. Smith as a member: the Pilgrim Society, 1870; Boston Society of Natural History, 1870; the Society for the Promotion of Theological Education at Cambridge, 1872; the American Antiquarian Society, 1876; where he was a member of the publishing committee from 1890 to 1906; the Phi Beta Kappa Society, Cambridge, 1876; the Bunker Hill Monument Association, 1881; the American Historical Association, 1884; the Bostonian Society, 1882; the Society for the Relief of Aged and Destitute Clergymen, 1885; and Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1892. Mr. Smith was a shareholder in the Boston Athenæum, and had served on the examining committee of the Boston Public Library, and on the visiting committee of Harvard College Library. Harvard University in 1887 bestowed on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

Mr. Smith, in 1864, having broken down in health, visited Europe, sailing on February 18, reaching Liverpool on March 1. He spent a short time in London, but enjoyed several weeks at Pau, France, and returned on May 26. Again in 1884, and in 1889, he was in Europe, and travelled extensively. His son, an only child, Walter Allen Smith, a graduate of Harvard College in 1880, went abroad soon after his graduation to complete his studies in Germany, France and England, and shortly before his intended return died of typhoid fever on April 8, 1882. He had gained some notice as a political writer, and was a young man of ability and exceptional promise. The last visit of Mr.

and Mrs. Smith to Europe in 1889 was to places associated with their son, whose death was a great loss to them.

Twelve years before Mr. Smith took an active part in the affairs of the Society it had reached an important turning point in its history, when Charles Deane became Chairman of the Standing Committee, and Robert C. Winthrop was elected President. The Society had then just received its first munificent bequest of ten thousand dollars from Samuel Appleton, the income to be used exclusively for "the procuring, preservation, preparation, and publication of historical papers." Mr. Deane announced this bequest, and at the same time the discovery of the Bradford manuscript in the Library of the Bishop of London at Fulham. Then followed the plan for the publication of the Society's proceedings, the foundation of the Massachusetts Historical Trust Fund by David Sears, and the gift of the Dowse Library, all in the same year. As Mr. Winthrop later said, the Society "was still restricted and crippled as it had been from its original organization in 1791, by the want of adequate apartments, and of the means of procuring or improving them." It was thought then that the golden period of the Society had begun. Into this happy change in conditions, Mr. Deane entered as a large and important factor, and established a new and higher standard of historical research and accuracy.

Mr. Smith was elected a Resident Member on April 11, 1867. Rev. Chandler Robbins, then Corresponding Secretary, was his sponsor in the late months of 1866. Mr. Smith had then reached the age of forty with a lively interest in literary and historical studies. He came into the Society with a good experience of twenty years in writing for magazines and newspapers, and he had shown himself to be accurate, critical and painstaking in his researches.

Mr. Smith's eminent fitness to take an active part in the Society's affairs was soon recognized. In the following April, 1868, he was elected a member of the Standing Committee, and on the next July 9, one of the Publishing Committee. He joined heart and soul with the coterie of workers, Charles Deane, Chandler Robbins, Richard Frothingham, and Dr. Green, to carry out as he said in his letter of acceptance to the Society, "the important objects for which it was incorporated," and his

chief interest during the remainder of his life was the best service he could render to it.

His business training had brought habits of regularity, industry and thrift, as well as a thorough knowledge of financial affairs. His studies and writing carried on during his leisure hours, even to the burning of midnight oil, were his avocation, and aroused in him such a love for historical work that it became his chief pursuit in later years. Books were his companions, and great writers his inspiration. A picture of Lord Macaulay always hung in a prominent place in his library, a precious reminder of Macaulay's words written to him, "I could not have wished for a kinder or more liberal critic," or "a reader so intelligent and enlightened."

He lived simply, and the affairs of his home, and of his business as well, were carried on with a precision and routine which brought an unhappy condition if broken. He enjoyed warm friendships, and was always generous and just, even to those who opposed him, or in a friendship which could not stand his test. His likes and dislikes were strong and outspoken. He took a deep interest in public affairs, was exceedingly well-informed, and was loyal to the best interests of public service.

My own intimate acquaintance with him began, when as a lad I entered into the service of the Society in January, 1878, soon after his election as Treasurer. The passing years have reduced the membership I knew then to five: our honored associate, Vice-President Winslow Warren; our President, Senator Lodge; our senior member, Dr. Green, long since out of active service; President Eliot, and Mr. Morse.

Mr. Smith's presence was always a solace in the troublesome conditions that often developed. Calm in manner, even modest and unobtrusive, he brought the necessary element of balance and wise judgment into passing events in the Society. He knew when to be silent under stress, and could, when rightly needed, say the sharp word to expose the weakness of an opponent. A faulty construction and a wrong font were things he delighted to find, and while his desire for literary accuracy was keen, he did not lose sight of the broader view of the subject.

It was his custom to drop in at the rooms at 30 Tremont Street quite regularly in the afternoon after two o'clock, the close of

his business hours, and to join the group of members, that gathered at midday for a social hour or so, now and then with no lack of story-telling. The senior Mr. Winthrop and Dr. Ellis were often among the number. Mr. Deane was always there, the leader and most diligent worker, who had a warm attachment for Mr. Smith, for their tastes and their purposes were wholly congenial. The foundation of the Society's future wider usefulness begun by Mr. Deane, who strove for a high standard of historical scholarship, was entered into by Mr. Smith and brought down to a younger generation of workers, with new ideals and inspiration. These two men gave the best years of their lives that the Society might have a better outlook, and a richer field of service. Through Mr. Smith's deep interest in the manuscript collection of the Winthrop family the Society was enabled to continue the publication of several volumes of the Winthrop papers, carefully edited by him; and became later the custodian of this large and treasured possession.

The year of Mr. Deane's death the Society adopted the policy of having an Editor, with a salary, and Mr. Smith was chosen to the position. With the busy work of this office, and all the duties connected with the Treasurer's labors for the next eighteen years Mr. Smith had an excellent opportunity to leave a lasting impress for the highest good of the Society. Briefly summarized his years of singular devotion number forty on the Publishing Committee, 1867-July, 1907; thirty-four in the Council, 1868-1870, 1875-1907; thirty, as Treasurer, 1877-1907; eighteen, as Editor, 1889-1907. He communicated several important contributions to the *Proceedings*, 1877-1899, and the *Memoirs* of Delano A. Goddard, Chandler Robbins, George Dexter, John J. Babson, John A. Lowell, and Clement Hugh Hill, beside a short account of the Historical Society. Even during the last ten years, since his resignation from active service, in 1907, his solicitous interest in the Society never flagged.

The completion of Mr. Smith's membership of fifty years was happily recognized by the Society, when fitting appreciations of his services as Treasurer, and Editor were given by his successors in office, Mr. Lord and Mr. Ford. He was deeply touched by this thoughtful remembrance, which recalled his own ambitious efforts for the Society, and his watchful care,

early and late through many long years, to add to the Society's possessions and usefulness.

Of all who have left their mark on the Society's records, none can surpass him in the tangible results of devoted labor in its behalf — results which will be gratefully appreciated long after his influence is forgotten.